

## **School Board**

### **Board Member Development**

The School Board desires that its individual members learn, understand, and practice effective governance principals. The Board is responsible for Board member orientation and development. Board members have an equal opportunity to attend State, and national meetings designed to familiarize members with public school issues, governance, and legislation.

The Board President and/or Superintendent shall provide all Board members with information regarding pertinent educational materials, publications, and notices of training or development.

### **Mandatory Board Member Training**

Each Board member is responsible for his or her own compliance with the mandatory training laws that are described below:

1. Each Board member taking office after June 13, 2011 must complete at least 4 hours of professional development leadership training in education and labor law, financial oversight and accountability, fiduciary responsibilities, and (beginning in the fall of 2023) trauma-informed practices for students and staff within the first year of his or her first term that begins after that date.
2. Each Board member who was in office on January 1, 2012 must complete training on the Open Meetings Act within one year of that date. Each Board member taking office after January 1, 2012 must complete this training no later than 90 days after taking the oath of office. After completing the training, each Board member must file a copy of his or her certificate of completion with his or her Board.
3. After the District's implementation of the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA) evaluations, each Board member must complete a training program on PERA evaluations before participating in a vote on a dismissal based on an optional alternative evaluative dismissal process.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain on the District website a log identifying the complete training and development activities of each Board member, including both mandatory and non-mandatory training.

### **Professional Development: Adverse Consequences of School Exclusion; Student Behavior**

The Board President or Superintendent, or their designees, will make reasonable efforts to provide ongoing professional development to Board members about the adverse consequences of school exclusion and justice-system involvement, effective classroom management strategies, culturally responsive discipline, appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement, and developmentally appropriate disciplinary methods that promote positive and healthy school climates.

**Board Self-Evaluation**

The School Board will conduct a self-evaluation with the goal of continuous improvement on or before October 1 of each year.

**New Board Member Orientation**

The orientation process for newly elected or elected School Board members includes:

1. The Board President or designee shall arrange a meeting with new Board member(s) for the purpose of explaining and answering questions about Board processes and procedures.
2. The Superintendent or designee shall give each new School Board member a copy of online access to the School Board Policy Manual, the School Board's regular meeting minutes for the past year, and other helpful information including material explaining the School Board's roles and responsibilities
3. The Board President may request a veteran Board member to mentor a new member.
4. All new members are encouraged to attend workshops for new members conducted by the Illinois Association of School Boards.

**Candidates**

The Superintendent or designee shall invite all current candidates for the office of School Board member to attend: (1) School Board meetings, except that this invitation shall not extend to any closed meetings, and (2) pre-election workshops for candidates.

LEGAL REF: 5 ILCS 120/1.05 and 120/2.  
105 ILCS 5/10-16a and 5/25-16.5

CROSS REF: 2:80 (Board Member Ethics), 2:125 (Board Member Expenses),  
2:20 (Types of School Board Meetings.)

Approved: November 20, 2006  
Revised: April 26, 2007  
Adopted: June 11, 2007  
Revised: October 15, 2013  
Approved: December 9, 2013  
Reviewed: March 18, 2019  
Approved: April 8, 2019  
Reviewed: February 28, 2022  
Approved: March 21, 2022